

New species records for the Bahamas

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The number of species recorded to date is nominal in many respects. There is a paucity of observers and much of what is being done is by visiting ornithologists from the U.S.A. and of the total check-list there are nearly twenty per cent single records. Many of the new records occur during the autumn migration and during the winter months. This is due to the fact that many of the newly recorded species are of North American, rather than Antillean origin. The possibility is highly in favour of species of south-eastern American origin occurring as accidental visitors and many of these are stragglers to western Florida during the autumn.

For waterbirds, Podicipedidae, Anatidae, and Laridae, the chances are that they will wander from the north following the track of the Gulf Stream and the Florida coastline.

Cinnamon Teal, *Anas cyanoptera*. A single male at West End, Grand Bahama on 27th December, 1967. Most individuals winter to the south from Texas and Mexico. Bond (1961) lists four records from Cuba between 9th January and 28th February.

Red-necked Grebe, *Podiceps grisegena*. A single bird in company with Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* and Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* on Lake Cunningham, New Providence, on 30th December, 1967. Red-necked Grebe occurs as far south as the Florida Keys occasionally. This is also a new record for the West Indies.

Records of new species for Andros Island

These records cover the period September, 1967 to February, 1968. Andros Island is the largest of the Bahama Islands and much of it is inaccessible except by helicopter. Without exception these records are from the Fresh Creek area, some 30 miles south of the northern tip of Andros on the east coast.

Roseate Spoonbill, *Ajaia ajaja*. Five adults on 2nd December, 1967. There were also reports of between two and four individuals in the same area from September until then. Roseate Spoonbills breed in the south of Florida and also in the southern Bahamas.

Pintail, *Anas acuta*. Previous records were from Grand Bahama and New Providence. Records for Andros constitute a male and female, on 6th January, 1968 and a single male on 16th February, 1968.

Redhead, *Aythya americana*. A single female on 3rd December, 1967 with Ring-necked Ducks *Aythya collaris*. Previous records for the Bahamas are from New Providence only.